

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2007***

The meeting was called to order at 6:42pm. Selectmen present were: Michael Woodworth, Wes Moore, and James McIlroy. Others present were: Eugene Perreault (Health Officer), Fran Lane (Town Counsel), Marty Champagne, Sarah McGregor, Melissa Lattman of the Exeter Newsletter, Jean Mackin of WMUR TV along with her cameraman Scott.

Wes advised that tests results came back negative from the State testing of mosquitoes from Newfields for EEE.

The Town was served with papers from Verizon New England, Inc. with regard to an abatement application. The paperwork was given to the Town Counsel who will forward it on to law firm handling this case for the Town.

The meeting went into a non-public session at 7:00pm per RSA 91:3 III. At 7:10pm the meeting returned to a public session.

The Comcast renewal contract was given to Fran Lane for review.

Wes brought the other Selectmen up to date with his conversation with Peter Allen regarding a Farmers Market. Peter was told that the Town probably will not take on the insurance liability and sponsor a day(s) for him to sell produce at the Town Hall parking lot. However, the Selectmen identified that Mr. Allen does have options either 1) to pay for insurance for his groups of vendors or 2) have an event at the Town Hall lot with existing insurance for just himself. The Selectmen are supportive of Mr. Allen's efforts to put together an association to sell local goods, but the necessary requirements must be fulfilled in order to take place on town owned property.

Wes made a motion to accept the bid from Rye Fuel for the 2007/2008 heating season at a price of \$2.359 per gallon. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor. Rye Fuel had the lowest price of all of the bids received.

Marty Champagne attended the meeting and asked the Selectmen if anything can be done about the trees blocking the view of Route 87 at Meadow Road. He asked if a tree could be removed. The tree in question is on private property. Nancy was asked to have Brian Knipstein contact the New Hampshire Department of Transportation to ask if they have authority to have the tree removed.

Marty asked if the signs at the Town Hall and the Library could be turned so that they may be read more easily while passing by them in a vehicle. The Selectmen decided that it is not feasible at this time to turn the signs.

Wes made a motion to accept the bid from Larry Shaw, Custom Woodworking, Builder-Remodeler in the amount of \$495.00 to scrape, prime, caulk, and paint the lower level rear windows and doors and trim at the Town Hall. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

James made a motion to accept and sign the Section 125 Cafeteria Plan Adoption Agreement and the Premium Reduction Plan to allow employees to pay their medical and dental insurance premium co-payments with pre-tax dollars. Wes seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor. James signed the documents for the Selectmen. Nancy was asked to begin the process to enroll any employees that wish to have their insurance co-payments taken from their paychecks prior to taxes.

Wes made a motion to accept the minutes of the August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007 meeting as amended. James seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

A letter and a CD were received from the Rockingham Economic Development Corporation. Nancy was asked to give these items to Reuben Hull for the Planning Board.

The Commercial Crime Program Insurance Application was signed as requested by the Town's insurance carrier (Primex).

Sarah McGregor of Dragon Mosquito attended the meeting and advised that 48 hours of trapping mosquitoes revealed no mosquitoes with Eastern Equine Encephalitis. However, the species caught are prone to carry West Nile Virus and EEE. Three traps were set in Newfields and two traps in Exeter. There was a very low count of mosquitoes – it is too dry now for mosquitoes. The State of New Hampshire will sponsor a second round of trapping.

The entire Town was fogged Monday night. The job was completed by 10:15pm. The area behind the elementary school was sprayed last night and again tonight via hand sprayers in areas that the truck was unable to reach. The spray will last a week or so unless it rains.

Sara recommends catching as many mosquitoes as possible. The traps will contain very few insects now because the Town was just sprayed. At the end of the week when the heat and humidity return, the count should increase. A blue cooler filled with dry ice attracts, captures, and preserves the mosquitoes so that they may be identified by species and tested for WNV and EEE.

New mosquitoes are hatching in the salt marshes and blowing in from other areas. Marshes produce new mosquitoes every week or so.

Wes feels the Town needs a plan of action to reduce the risk. Sara recommends spraying from the road every 10 to 14 days depending on the weather. She likes temperatures above 60 degrees, calm winds, and a little humidity for spraying. She suggests three more treatments from the road depending on the weather. This would bring the spraying into October. The State will fund the first two weeks of

trapping and Sara recommends one additional week of trapping. She said there is rarely a need to spray in October as fewer mosquitoes hatch then.

Newton's program is very similar to Newfields, but Newton does more road spraying than Newfields. Sara has kept the State informed of her plans for Newfields and stated that the State will only call the Town if there is a problem.

The Selectmen will advise Sara next week about their decision on how to proceed. They need to receive and review the information from the State in order to make a decision. They also need to receive the new information from Dragon Mosquito.

As of now the Town has sprayed and will continue trapping and re-spraying as necessary.

Eugene Perrault will contact the State Department of Human Services tomorrow and will keep the Selectmen informed.

A few residents called about spraying and some did not know of the larviciding program which started in April. Records of the larviciding sites are available at the Town Office. A few parents called the elementary school concerned about sending their children to school. They were happy to hear that the school area had been sprayed and activities curtailed at dusk.

The victim of EEE is currently in critical but stable condition. The Selectmen hope that the media will maintain the family's privacy. Three or more physicians have contacted the Town and their names and numbers have been forwarded to the family involved.

Wes updated the Selectmen on his research into Discretionary Easements.

Bestway Disposal expressed their gratitude to the residents of Newfields for their condolences at the death of one of their employees.

The Working Session was tabled until next week's meeting.

At 8:45pm Wes made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by James and was passed with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer  
Administrative Assistant